

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of claims in this application.

1. (Currently Amended) A system for lubricating a closing mechanism on fifth wheels comprising: a closing mechanism arranged on a bottom side of a coupling plate, having at least one closing hook provided with a permanent coating, and a grease reservoir, which is permanently connected by a lubricating line solely to the closing hook such that grease is distributable from the lubricating line directly onto a contact surface of the closing hook which contacts a kingpin when the kingpin is present, wherein the coating of the closing hook is configured as a sliding coating and the grease reservoir is a grease cartridge, with the grease cartridge arranged on the fifth wheel.

2. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 1, wherein the grease cartridge is coordinated with the fifth wheel.

3. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 1, wherein the grease cartridge is arranged underneath the coupling plate.

4. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 1, wherein the grease cartridge has a drive unit.

5. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 4, wherein the drive unit comprises an electromechanical drive.

6. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 4, wherein the drive unit comprises a chemical drive.

7. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 4, wherein the drive unit is connected to a variable control mechanism.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 7, wherein the variable control mechanism comprises a valve control mechanism.

10. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 9, wherein the valve control mechanism comprises a flow restriction valve arranged in the lubricating line.

11. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 7, wherein the variable control mechanism communicates with a vehicle control unit.

12. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 7, wherein the variable control mechanism communicates with a coupling control unit.

13. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 7, wherein the variable control mechanism communicates with a pressure sensor arranged on the coupling plate.

14. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 1, wherein at least one outer surface of the closing hook is provided with the coating, wherein the coating is in the form of the sliding coating.

15. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 14, wherein the sliding coating consists of a multilayer system.

16. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 15, wherein the multilayer system is composed of at least a first layer, which comprises an iron alloy with nickel and molybdenum fractions, and a second layer of PTFE, applied to the first layer.

17. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 14, wherein the sliding coating has a layer thickness of 50 to 150 μ m.

18. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 17, wherein the sliding coating has a layer thickness of 70 to 130 μm .

19. (Currently Amended) The system per claim 1, including ~~a~~ ~~the~~ closing bar for use in the fifth wheel, wherein at least one outer surface of the closing bar is provided with the coating, wherein the coating is in the form of the sliding coating.

20. (Previously Presented) The system per claim 2, wherein the grease cartridge is arranged underneath the coupling plate and has a drive unit that comprises an electromechanical drive or a chemical drive, wherein the drive unit is connected to a variable control mechanism that comprises an engine control mechanism, a valve control mechanism, or a flow restriction valve arranged in the lubricating line, wherein the variable control mechanism communicates with a control unit, or with a pressure sensor arranged on the coupling plate.

21. (Currently Amended) A system for lubricating a closing mechanism on fifth wheels comprising: a closing mechanism arranged on a bottom side of a coupling plate, having at least one closing hook provided with a permanent coating, and a grease reservoir, which is connected by a lubricating line to the closing hook, wherein the coating of the closing hook is configured as a sliding coating, wherein the grease reservoir is a grease cartridge, with the grease cartridge arranged on the fifth wheel, and wherein the closing hook comprises a lubricating channel expiring on a contact surface which contacts adjacent to a kingpin when the kingpin is present.

22. (Currently Amended) A system for lubricating a closing mechanism on fifth wheels comprising: a closing mechanism arranged on a bottom side of a coupling plate, having at least one closing hook provided with a permanent coating, and a grease reservoir, which is connected by a lubricating line to the closing hook, wherein the coating of the closing hook is configured as a sliding coating, wherein the grease reservoir is a grease cartridge, with the grease cartridge arranged on the fifth wheel, and wherein the closing hook comprises a lubricating channel running in a radial

direction and expiring on a contact surface which contacts adjacent to a kingpin when the kingpin is present.